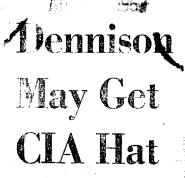
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STATINTL



By CLARENCE LANE

Virginian-Pilot Staff Writer

NORFOLK-Naval officers often tend to inherit, by a series of successive appointments, the "hats" of their seniors of similar experience and ability.

This has been the case with

Adm. Robert L. Dennison.
Close military and civilian associates of Dennison agreed Wednesday that the chain may not end with the admiral's retirement May 1.

First was in March 1959, when he became commander in chief of U.S. Naval Forces, Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean (now: called commander in chief U.S. Naval Forces Europe), Wright had

held that office from 1952 to 1954. Second was in March 1960, when Dennison relieved Wright here as: NATO's Supreme Allied Comman-quest be made to you. der Atlantic, commander in chief U.S. Atlantic Fleet, and commander in chief U.S. Atlantic Com-

NATIONALIST CHINA

Wright retired at that time, and a year later he was recalled to duty as a member of the Board of National Estimates, a Central Intelligence Agency advisory group.

With Dennison's retirement less than a month away, it was learned Tuesday that Adm. Wright will be appointed ambassador to Nationalist China.

The assumption is that Dennison again could don one of Wright's former hats.

The Board of National Estima es is composed of high-level military and civilian experts who evaluate intelligence estimates of nations of the world

Socretary of the Navy Fred In his last two assignments, Korth, in paying tribute to Den-Dennison filled posts once held by this on here Tuesday night, men-Adm. Jerauld Wright. tioned the admiral's "experience and understanding of the subtle interrelationship's between the arious nations."

The secretary told Dennison: I am confident that we can conlinue to expect further great service to your country in any number of capacities, should that re-

Dennison, in response to the tribute, made it clear he hopes to continue in U.S. service.

PUBLIC CAREER

He referred to the approaching end of his Navy career and added: "But I hope it is not the end

of my public career.

Both Korth and Dennison, when asked later theries the comments contained possible hints as to the admiral's future, said they did not know of any plans in the making the contained by the contained by the contained the toward further public service by

Dennison explained that her has rented a home at Virginia Beach and will remain in the area this

Several men_closely associated with the admiral said Wednesday any assumption that Dennison may succeed Wright in the CIA post is not illusical.

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